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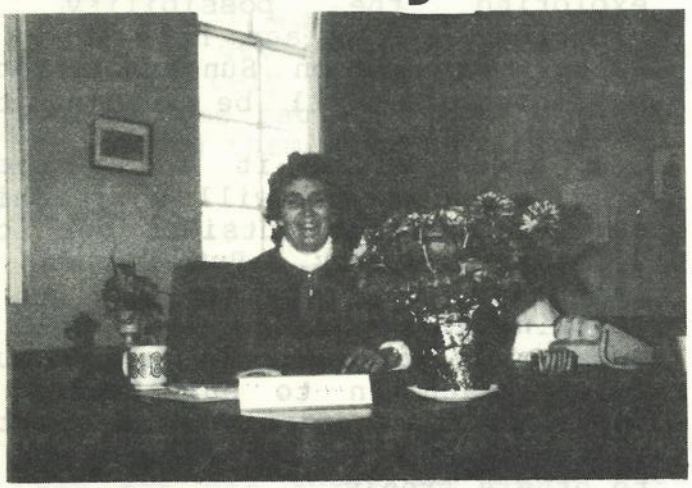
CROWN

Vol. 1, No. 3. Redeemer College January, 1984

Food Lady Hired As S.A. Assistant



Here's Mom Verrips

by Harry Zantingh

You may have noticed that there is someone else sitting behind the desk in the Student Affairs Office. She is none other than Redeemer's "food lady." By some of the students she is affectionately called "Mom." Mrs. Mary Verrips has been hired on a part-time interim basis. She shares the Student Affairs duties with Jim Berry, the Resident Director, and with Wilma Hoogendoorn, the Student Affairs secretary.

(Cont'd on p.5)

Royals Win!

by Paul Vander Kooy

Our hockey team finally did it! After thirty games with little success, the Redeemer Royals won not one but two games in a row. These games were won in Woodstock at the annual Invitational Boxing Day Tournament.

The Royals were invited to the tournament after one of the regular teams dropped out. Redeemer gave a startling performance and surprized everyone there, including themselves.

The first team to fall victim to the Royals' onslaught was the Sarnia Concrete, by a score of 4-3. Tim Fisher opened the scoring for the victors, followed by goals from John Luth, Jim DeVries, and another goal by Luth. The guest goaltender for the Royals was Jim Hoekstra from Kitchener, who played a sound game throughout.

The second team the Royals played was the Wellandport Jets. After a very rough and aggressive game, the Royals came out on top by a score of 2-1. The goal scorers for Redeemer in that game were Jim Pot and Wayne Oegema, and the goaltender was Chris Attema from Smithville.

The third game our team played was against the Burlington Sailors, who are familiar to us since they play in the same league as the Royals. This game proved to be the Royals' first and only loss of the tournament, ending with a 2-0 score. The Royals did score first, but the goal was disallowed because the referee said he had blown the whistle before the puck entered the net. After this disappointment the Royals seemed to fall apart, allowing the Sailors to dominate the game.

The results of this tournament did prove something for the hockey team. They can win! They did well and we should be proud of our team.●

REACH-OUT

by Harry Zantingh

Bravo, Jim Berry! It is good to know that there are people thinking of innovative, inspiring ways to improve Redeemer. His idea to start a reach-out program here at Redeemer is brilliant. Not only will it be beneficial to the college's public image but it also fills a real spiritual need among the students at the college.

The organization of such a program could not have come at a more appropriate time. Lately there have been serious questions raised about the spiritual life among the students. Some have felt that evidence of the Holy Spirit among us has not been overwhelming. Perhaps this program will be a jumping-off point for a revitalization of the spiritual aspect.

Redeemer is a young college. We are like a young child who must be guided, helped and tended to by parents. A child is always receiving, taking what is given, often without returning thanks. We have received much. We are the "miracles of Redeemer College," as Arend Kersten likes to put it. Our God in heaven certainly has been a good Father.

However, a child grows up and begins to take on responsibilities. He realizes that he must use the gifts given to him -- he must also give. If we continue to receive only, we will become spoiled brats, always demanding more. This reach-out program is an opportunity for us to give; we must be responsible and make use of it.

So far this program is only in the planning stages and no concrete events have taken place. Jim is exploring the possibility of visiting an old age home once or twice a month on Sundays. Those participating will be leading the worship service.

I have called it a reach-out program because we will be reaching out to others outside our own college community. But I think it can also be referred to as a reaching in program. Why? -- it is because in giving to others we must first reach in to ourselves. We must reach in, examine our hearts, and then take our love and give it to others freely.

Take advantage of the opportunity! If not through this program, then through other opportunities God will give to you. Help others and build your own faith -- reach out!●

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Upon reading "Our Kroontje and Student Council" in the last issue of the Crown (Nov. 30), I was displeased with the picture that this journalist gave of our Student Council president. The Wynne Kroontje that I know is certainly more down-to-earth and friendly than the haughty snob that this journalist seems to suggest. It may well be that anyone who reads the article will already know what Wynne is all about, but for her sake I suggest that the journalist be more careful in his choice of words.

A fighter of injustice,
Wayne Roorda

FURRY GUESTS

Dear Sir:

It is not my intention to make you feel like Ann Landers but I have a problem. It pertains to the matter of unwanted, uninvited furry guests who enter our dorm through the roof. First of all, these particular guests always visit our dorm when we are not there. I do not think they wish to be too conversational. The other day we were visited by one of these creatures who thought he was an interior designer and proceeded to rearrange our curtains. He had absolutely no respect for the recently vacuumed carpet. Furthermore, he seemed to enjoy swinging from our chandelier like some uncoordinated Tarzan.

He must have read Goldilocks and

the Three Bears, for he ran upstairs to explore my room. Vanity seems to be his main character defect, judging from the greasy marks discovered on my mirror. Like Goldilocks, this visitor saw no harm in sleeping in my bed, or in my rommate's bed for that matter. My roommate and I didn't mind this too much, but were slightly moved to anger when we found spots of blood on our blankets (I guess he couldn't find a band-aid that would stick on his tail.)

And now I would like to ask you how do we get rid of such visitors? Do we politely ask them to leave and not to come back or shall we resort to gunning them down?

Sincerely,
Tony Boer

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Dear Sir:

Recently, an informal meeting was held for all those concerned about the spiritual life at Redeemer. According to sources, the concensus of this meeting was that there definitely is something lacking in the spiritual life at Redeemer. Many ideas were shared but the question still remains: What can be done to alter this situation?

I have always thought that college students are mature enough to develop and maintain their spiritual lives--both independently, and as a college community--on their own. But for reasons unknown, this doesn't hold true all the time. It is because of this inconsistency that I would like to make some suggestions to the Administration of Redeemer College.

To promote daily devotions, each student should be assigned memory work from the Bible. These assigned readings would be the same for all students, in order to promote the reading of the Bible together. The assignments could be posted daily, on the wall opposite the Student Affairs Office. Every morning, each student would be expected to recite his memory work to his faculty advisor, who in turn would grade the students progress and record it.

Group Bible discussion is also vital to any young Christian. To encourage this, the Administration should set aside Friday night for Bible study in the college facilities. All students would be required to attend these sessions for their own benefit (attendance would be taken). Students would be divided alphabetically into groups of about fifteen to twenty people. Each group would be led by a faculty member, who would prepare study questions beforehand. Participation in the discussion would be recorded, and could possibly be graded as a non-credit course. All students would be expected to take along pen and paper; however, the Bibles could be distributed to the groups by the college.

As prayer is also important, it would be only appropriate for the Administration to take an active role in improving this part of the student's spiritual life. With the advice of Student Affairs, the Discipline Committee, and the President of the College, each faculty member would be responsible for making a daily prayer request list for each of his advisees. These prayer lists could be picked up from the faculty advisors by the students every morning after they finish reciting their memory work. These lists would not only give the students something to pray about, but also the assurance that they are praying for the right things.

I admit that these suggestions, when put to use, will not cause an overnight change in the spiritual life at Redeemer. But I do believe that they will open the eyes of many of us who think that we need this kind of sheltered atmosphere. My final suggestion: Since we are all Christians here at Redeemer, let's not be afraid to show that we are!

Sincerely,
Jim Pot

The Crown is the Redeemer College newspaper designed to be a source of information, education, and a voice for the students of Redeemer Colllege. We invite students, faculty and staff to read and contribute to this paper. The opinions expressed in this paper are not necessarily those of the student body, faculty or administration.

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DeBolster: A Busy Man

by Harry Zantingh

What does the president of Redeemer College do? I think many of us have asked that question. To be honest, it doesn't seem like he does much more than walk down the halls, look sagacious and speak at assemblies. However, nothing could be further from the truth. Don't let his unruffled, easy-going composure fool you; Rev. De Bolster is a busy man.

Of course, we all know that the president is the "head honcho," answerable only to his boss, the Board of Governors. It is at his door where the buck stops. He makes the final decisions, acts as the problem-solver, and makes sure that things run smoothly and get done at Redeemer. Sound easy? At first glance perhaps, but not once we look behind the scenes.

In order to do his job well, he must know what is going on. That means being part of numerous committees and councils and going to many, many meetings such as College Council, Academic Council, Board of Governors, the executive of the Board, Finance Committee, get-togethers with the deanship, and his own executive. Often he must lead, as well as, spend time preparing for these meetings.

Rev. DeBolster on Grandparent's day

Hiring new faculty also falls under his jurisdiction. This involves recruiting prospects, conducting interviews, reviewing resumes, accumulating information on the applicants, and formulating recommendations. The present faculty is also under his scrutiny. This entails evaluating all faculty members, interviewing them and making sure that they do their work.

By now you must be amazed. How can he do it all? But wait, there is more.

Perhaps one of his major duties beyond the college walls is public relations. He devotes two Sundays a month to preaching in various churches throughout Ontario on

behalf of Redeemer College. His agenda also includes numerous speaking engagements and organizing events for the public. Phone calls, meetings, talking to parents, supporters, interested people, and prospective students are all a part of his PR for Redeemer.

On top of all this, his door is always open for counselling, advice and newspaper interviews. And in his spare time, he tries to do a fair amount of reading to keep informed.

What are some of his goals with respect to Redeemer? His main one is that this college remain a Reformed Christian institution, which he feels is a must. The board being comprised of church representatives also helps to keep the college headed in the right direction.

He wants a strong core program here at Redeemer. "Vertical program building rather than horizontal is the right direction." concludes De Bolster. That means specializing in certain areas in co-operation with the other Reformed Christian colleges. He also pointed out that a quality faculty with a strong Reformed world-view must first be acquired before any new program can be instituted.

For the college's future, De Bolster had no definite predictions. He revealed that a committee will soon be appointed to look at a permanent location but that such an acquisition is still in the long-range planning stage. At the moment, the college is negotiating to rent another building in case Redeemer outgrows its present facilities, which could happen soon. He feels that a future student body of 500 would be ideal.

De Bolster feels that he has a good relationship with the Student Council but would like to improve it. He recently took steps to do so by hosting the Council at his home for a get-together.

As we can see, the president does do something. It is impressive and almost comes close to the heavy workload we students must bear. As a result of his work, Redeemer is a finer institution.●

STUDENT AFFAIRS (cont'd from p. 1)

Mrs. Mary Verrips was hired as part-time Student Affairs Assistant.

Mrs. Verrips was born in Holland on January 30, 1937 and immigrated to Canada in 1952. In 1959, she married Gerry Verrips and together they raised five girls and two boys ranging in age from 23 to 7.

Mrs. Verrips lives on a market-gardening farm near Dundas where her family grows box plants in greenhouses. They also buy and sell fresh garden produce at markets in the area. Mrs. Verrips bakes as well and sells her goods at the Kitchener market.

Mrs. Verrips has worked as the food co-ordinator for the college since October 1, 1983 -- a position she still holds now. According to her, it took a month of hard work to get the food program on its feet, but she feels that it is running smoothly now.

At the moment, Mrs. Verrips plans to be in the Student Affairs office for only one semester or until someone else is hired. She feels that her duty is to ease the burden of the administration.

Her office hours are the mornings of Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and all day Wednesday. She will not be in on Fridays because that is her baking day. She would love to see you if you have a problem and even if you don't.●

EXAMS: A BIOLOGICAL RESPONSE

by Leona Huizinga

I couldn't wait until exams were over because that meant we could go home for Christmas and that would give my skin a chance to clear. I try not to get too excited about exams. I don't know what's wrong with me, but just mention anything about exams and small, sometimes not so small, elevations erupt on my skin. It'd be nice if I had a choice in the placement of my pimples because then I'd have all the exam material arranged in Braille on my forehead.

So, what's so terrible about exams that drives me to acne? Could it be that some of the exams make up a large percent of a term mark? Yes, that could very well be it.

I find studying for these exams extremely trying. I pick at my forehead and nose and scratch my face -- stimulating my oil glands -- in an attempt to relieve anxiety. Rather than absorb the exam material, I pound my temples and moan and think, "What if I flunk out -- or worse -- what if they put me on probation?" I'd be humiliated, that's what. And I scream at my books, as I tear out my hair, "I want another chance!" and they give me one after New Year's when we start all over again.

Redeemer College: The Beginning

by John Noordhof

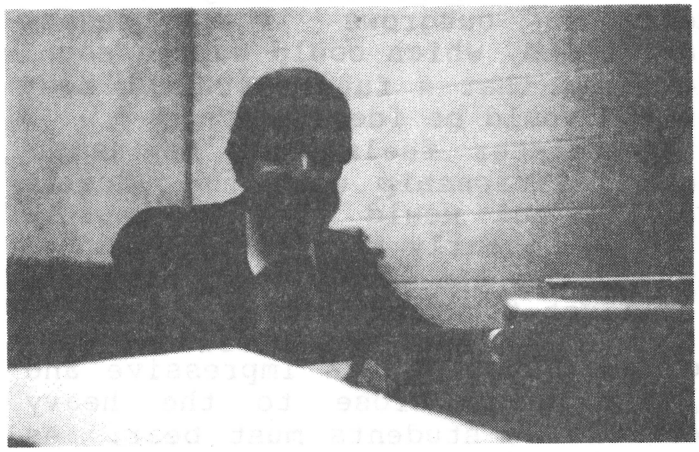
The idea of establishing a Christian college in Ontario originated in St. Catharines in 1975. An unnamed businessman approached Rev. De Bolster with this proposition. These two, plus Rev. Kuntz and Rev. Sikkema, both serving pastorates in the St. Catharines area, got together and decided to explore the matter.

A committee was set up to do a feasability study. After much hard work and research, the results of their findings suggested that the time was ripe to form a Christian college in Ontario. On November 13, 1976, the Ontario Christian College Association was established. The first board was appointed: Rev. De Bolster as president, Rev. J. Zantingh as vice-president, Mr. Vander Vennen as secretary, Dr. Senechal as treasurer. At this time, Professor Cooper, then a student in Toronto, and Dr. Van Belle became involved. Dr. T. Plantinga was hired as Director of College Development.

A variety of committees were set up. The Academic Affairs Committee looked at curriculum and affiliation. They went to the government for information and found out that the college would not be able to grant degrees, and therefore, would have to affiliate with a university. The committee found that only Waterloo and Brock universities were co-operative. Brock did not want affiliation but was willing to help. Waterloo was willing to affiliate and so discussions continued with them for three and a half years. However, a major problem arose when Waterloo wanted the college to specialize in areas dealing with the Christian Reformed Church and not to teach general liberal arts courses. As a result, the talks fell flat.

In 1980, the government introduced Bill 4, which made legal its decision not to grant any new charters, a procedure already in practice. This meant that Redeemer College would not be able to resist. This point was one of the lowest in Redeemer's short history.●

Next issue: Fight For The Charter



Prof. Cooper, Academic Program Co-ordinator

AMERICANS IN BEIRUT

by Edgar Hielema

American casualties in Beirut are piling up. The present body count stands at 279. This seemingly useless waste of young lives causes us to question the validity of American involvement in Lebanon.

The Americans were invited into Lebanon some time ago as a part of a four-nation peace-keeping force. Situated in one of Beirut's hottest battle zones, the Americans have been meekly absorbing the heavy punishment dealt to them by Syrian-backed forces. Now, in response to attacks which have claimed the lives of hundreds of Marines, President Reagan is allowing his troops to take an "eye for an eye" attitude. This has resulted in an escalation of hostilities, and now there is speculation that Syria may attack Beirut. Syria presently considers herself in a state of war with the U.S.

This sudden squalor of diplomatic and military activity has had far-reaching political implications. Now, more than ever, the American presence in Lebanon is being questioned. However, one must remember the original purpose of the peace-keeping forces in Lebanon. Their duty is to provide relative political stability until the country can take over for herself and build a new nation. Until this occurs, the peace-keeping forces should not consider leaving Beirut, thereby, leaving it open for the Syrians to take over.

Now that this point is established, one must consider if America is justified in hitting back at the antagonists in Beirut. I feel that if the Americans wish to continue their a presence in Lebanon, they must be prepared to defend themselves. At this point, they are fighting for mere survival. If they are not allowed to take a "hit back" policy, they will simply be massacred. This, of course, would prevent them from completing their task of breathing new life into Lebanon.●

Spiritual Situation Discussed

by Harry Zantingh

On Wednesday, November 30, a meeting was called by the college to dicuss a concern expressed by some students about the quality of the spiritual life among the Redeemer student body. This concern was kindled by a recent article in the October 20 issue of the Dordt Diamond entitled "Spiritual Crisis" by Mike Brands.

It is felt by some that there is an apathy about spiritual matters among the students. Another concern is that since we all have similar Christian backgrounds, our faith is not challenged enough. These concerns made a deep impact on the faculty and staff, resuslting in the calling of a meeting. Even Rev. De Bolster felt that it was important enough to attend the meeting.

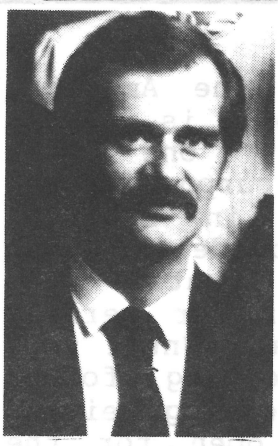
Three questions were asked. Is there a problem, why, and what can we do about it? The reactions to the first question were varied. Some said yes, citing the lack of participation in a Bible-study and prayer group as evidence. Others seemed uncommitted. The feeling of the majority seemed to be that the college is not the main source of the problem but rather that the difficulty lies at the individual level. It is a matter of students setting their priorities straight and getting out of life what they put into it.

As a possible reason for the apathy, Richard Vander Vaart offered the fact that there are no seniors at Redeemer to act as leaders and as mature, responsible examples.

When Professor Cook asked if the dorms had regular group devotions, the predominant answer was no. This answer suggests that perhaps the R.A.'s are not doing their job in promoting spiritual growth.

Some possible solutions proposed

(Cont'd on p. 8)



The man in front of the camera.

Man Behind The Bench

by Paul Vander Kooy

Who is that man behind the players' bench at all the Redeemer hockey games, the one who tirelessly paces back and forth and watches patiently as the team he coaches struggles for improvement? The man is Doug Buhlman, father of three, husband to two, his wife and hockey.

Doug Buhlman works for the Hamilton Hydro Electric Commission. In his spare time he coaches two hockey teams, one of which is in the minor hockey system, the other is our Redeemer Royals.

Doug's previous experience in hockey includes playing on a Junior "A" team, the Guelph Platers, which was a farm team for the Boston Bruins. He played with the likes of Jean Rattelle. He played a few games with the Redeemer squad last season and was especially noted for his ability to get penalties, something which was not foreign to him while playing Junior "A" hockey either.

So this is the man who waits behind the bench, waiting for the inevitable win, encouraging the team through defeat and praising the players for effort.

B.B. Game No Contest

by Paul Vander Kooy

On Tuesday, November 29, the Redeemer Royals basketball team scored a convincing 59-27 victory over the inexperienced Hamilton District Christian Highschool team. The win was the Royals' second victory in three starts. In the other two games, they lost to Eden Christian College while winning over Beacon Christian High in St. Catharines.

Although the game was no contest for the Royals, it was a chance for the team to implement plays which they had worked on in practice but had previously been unable to use in a game situation.

The game was highlighted by strong offensive and defensive play on the Royals' part. Top points went to John Vanden Ende, who got 17, while Marvin Oldejans netted six baskets for 12 points.

The only discouraging part of the game was that only a handful of fans were present to cheer on the victors. With a successful basketball team such as the Royals, we should be getting many more fans out to the games. Keep that in mind for the next game.

(cont'd from p. 8)

were workshops or reach-out programs to create instances where people can share and challenge their faith. Pete Vellinga criticized the college for its chapel services and assemblies, and suggested that more work be put into them. He stated, "Chapels are not giving the students a spiritual boost."

Arend Kersten, who acted as chairperson, was encouraged by the meeting. He felt that some of the leaders were frustrated but that they were somewhat unjustified in saying there is a problem because of the failure of one event, namely the Bible-study group. He stated, however, that there certainly is room for improvement and that the faculty and staff are sensitive to this. His opinion was that there is no real spiritual crisis at Redeemer -- in a few students perhaps, but not in the student body as a whole.

Regarding the challenging of our faith, Kersten felt that Redeemer does not exist to provide such instances but rather to prepare students for the challenges.

The results of the meeting may not have been concrete, but it certainly made people aware of the need for spiritual uplifting. Perhaps now, some students will take constructive action and begin to build avenues for others to gain access to a richer spiritual life.

BRING ME TO MY KNEES

Lord, the world sure is a confusing place sometimes
I'm sure you never meant it to be that way.
As much as it causes my soul to grieve and agonize
over the constant confusion and sorrow,
How much more must this sad state of affairs cause your heart
to bleed and your brow to pour forth streams of deep-seated
tears.

How you must writhe in sorrow
Over our disobedience and constant trickery,
How deep must the dagger of our pride and self-love pierce
Your Spirit.

Oh what pain must our complacency and lack of faith cause
you.
To know the displaced and disjointed efforts of our
reason and intellect is to know but a fraction of the hurt we
heap at your feet.

And yet, Lord, despite our profound and constant failures
your always pour forth your love upon your children in rivers
of warmth,
Your tender and firm hand is always edging us closer to our
eternal Home

We, in our limited vision, marvel at your patience and care
We momentarily catch a fleeting glimpse of the true depth of
your love.

If only the cataracts of sin and disobedience could be lifted
from our eyes,
What a glory they would behold!
What a Saviour would we see!
What a humility would we need!

I pray, dear God, cause my legs to grow weak
cause my ankles to tire.

Maybe then, I'll be able to get down off my tower of Babel
and worship you as I should,
With folded hands
With bowed head
With a submissive and searching heart

Maybe then, I'll see the purity of your Word
and fall in reverence and awe before your Majesty.

Oh Lord, bring me to my knees,
Cause my eyes to look upward for thy Light
my hands to be folded in prayerful petition
my heart to be wrapped in your quietude of shalom.

Work in me the pleasures of your grand purposes,
Mold me according to your Will.
Above all, Lord, cause me to be a faithful and obedient
servant,
one who knows his Redeemer and serves Him in humility.

by Jim Berry

THORNS AND NAILS

By:Paul Vanderkooy

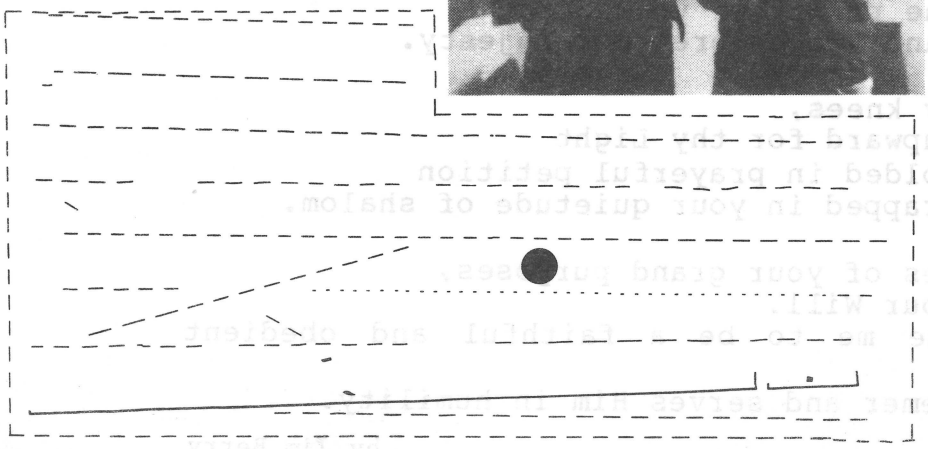
There are many bridges that we must cross;
Some are broken structures covered in moss.
Nails protrude from the wood, with thorns atop;
When I find those, I take one look and stop

I don't see what is on the other side;
I forget that on this bridge someone died.
Beyond it is the sought-for paradise;
But the strength of the bridge does not entice.

So I look around, and not far away;
Is a bridge with a toll booth, at which I pay.
But this bridge is solid, not covered with moss;
So I go past the gates, and start to cross.

That bridge turned out to be the way to hell;
I had to pay, but I took it just as well.
I was cruising along, the going was great;
I was almost there when I saw my fate.

It was hard to turn against the traffic flow;
The other way was rough, the going was slow.
I made it back to the other bridge so rough;
And through the thorns and nails I could see Christ's love.

THIS PAGE STARRING AL,EXCEPT HE ISN'T IN ONE PICTURE

CLOCKWISE:
Al and Bri checking out the milk.
Al squashing Sharon's head aided by Renée & Deb.
Who cares about (front row) Sharon, (middle row) Denise, Renée, Deb and (back row) Mary Nel because Al's not in this picture.